ABSTRACT

A differential current driver has a current source that supplies current selectively to two output terminals according to data to be transmitted. A comparison circuit compares the current output by the current source with a reference value and generates a control signal. Responding to the control signal, a current adjustment circuit adjusts the current supplied to the two output terminals by, for example, shunting part of the current to ground, or by adjusting a bias voltage that controls the current output of the current source. A switching circuit may shunt all of the current output by the current source during a brief period preceding output of current from the output terminals. These operations take place around transitions from the output disabled state to the output enabled state, and avoid the output of excessive current just after such transitions.